Digital Technologies in STEM Education



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Transit of an exoplanet:

Exoplanet XO-6b size measurements.

1.- AIM OF THE PROJECT

Take advantage of the expertise of the researchers of the *Parc Astronòmic del Montsec*¹ to develop a project with our students and introduce Astronomy.

Develop a 10-hour training with secondary and upper primary school teachers to implement astronomy as STEAM backbone.

¹Kike's Herrero (PAM)

Star

Transit Length

t1

Time

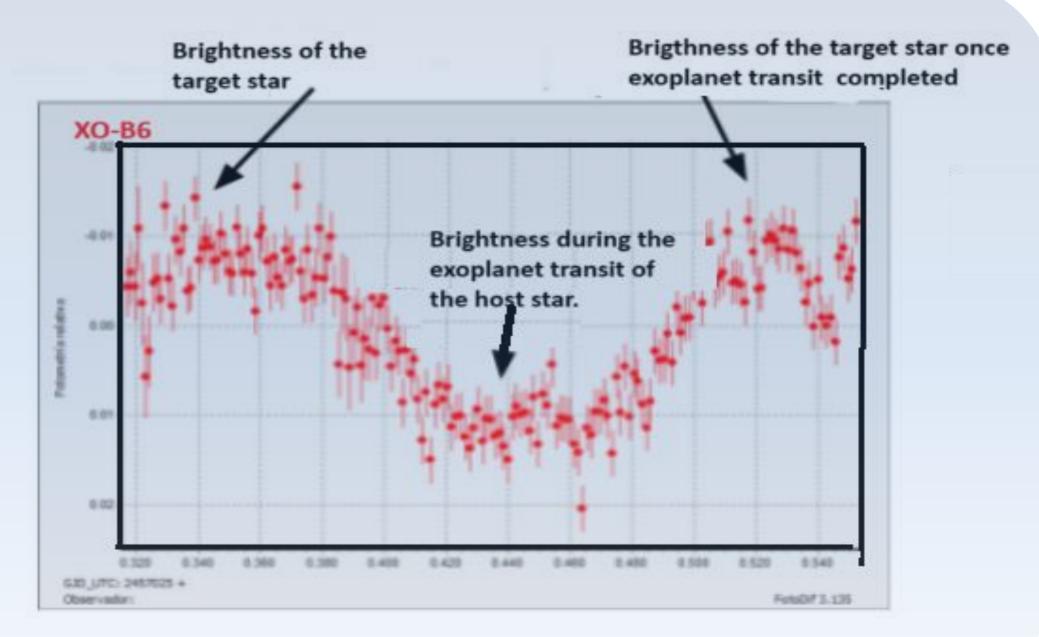
Transit of an Evaplanat © NASA

The transit of an exoplanet occurs when the planet passes in front of its host star, promoting a star's light intensity reduction. It can be represented by a light curve.

2.- DATA

The XO-6b light curve study allow us to establish:

- The amount of light a planet blocks in transit, the transit depth (δ).
- The <u>transit depth + the size of its host star</u> allows to calculate the **size** of the exoplanet
- The duration of the transit



LIGHT CURVE OF THE X0-B6 EXOPLANET

3.- STUDENTS MODELIZATION

The transit of different size exoplanets, on the same star, affect its intensity, being represented on different transit depths.



- It was carried out by 14-15years old students.
- Results can be obtained with simple analysis methods.
- Provides a simple way to introduce astronomy concepts specifically extrasolar planets in highschool classrooms.